

REMARKS

Request for Reconsideration

Applicants have carefully considered the matters raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action but remain of the opinion that patentable subject matter is present. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's position based on the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims Status

Claims 3-16 are pending in this Application.

Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled and Claims 3-11 have been indicated as allowed. Claim 12 has been amended herein to be dependent upon Claim 3 and Claims 13-16 are ultimately dependent upon Claim 12. Thus, it is submitted that Claims 12-16 are also now allowable.

Specification Amendments

A request had been made to check the Specification for possible minor errors.

The Specification has been checked and one minor error was found at page 10, fifth paragraph. Such is deemed to be a typographical error and has been corrected herein.

Prior Art Rejection

Claims 1, 2 and 12-16 have been rejected as being anticipated by Stossel; Claims 1, 2 and 12-14 have been rejected as being anticipated by Lo; Claims 1 and 12-16 have been rejected as being anticipated by Kamatani; and Claims 15 and 16 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Lo.

Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled herein and Claims 12-16 have been amended such that they are ultimately dependent upon allowed Claim 3.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are patentable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the Application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Should any fees or extensions of time be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit account #02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,
LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP

By:



Donald C. Lucas, Reg. # 31,275
(Attorney for Applicant)
475 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016
Tel. # (212) 661-8000

DCL/mr